



CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA REQUEST

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| AGENDA OF: | 11-19-13 | AGENDA REQUEST NO: | V-B |
| INITIATED BY: | KEISHA E. SEALS, ENGINEER III <i>KES</i> | RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: | ENGINEERING |
| PRESENTED BY: | CHRISTOPHER STEUBING, P.E., CFM, CITY ENGINEER | DIRECTOR: | CHRISTOPHER STEUBING, P.E., CFM, CITY ENGINEER <i>CL S</i> |
| | | ADDITIONAL DIRECTOR (S): | N/A |
| SUBJECT / PROCEEDING: | UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD SOUTH CONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENTS AUTHORIZE BUDGET AMENDMENT | | |
| EXHIBITS: | UNIVERSITY BLVD CONSTRUCTION MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS AND LOCATIONS | | |
| CLEARANCES | | APPROVAL | |
| LEGAL: | MARY ANN POWELL, CITY ATTORNEY <i>MAP</i> | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: | N/A |
| PURCHASING: | TODD REED, CPPB PURCHASING MANAGER <i>TR</i> | ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER: | KAREN DALY <i>KD</i> |
| BUDGET: | JENNIFER BROWN, <i>JB</i> DIRECTOR OF BUDGET & RESEARCH | CITY MANAGER: | ALLEN BOGARD <i>Allen Bogard</i> |
| BUDGET | | | |
| EXPENDITURE REQUIRED: \$ | | 20,000 | |
| CURRENT BUDGET: \$ | | 0 REMAINING | |
| ADDITIONAL FUNDING: \$ | | 20,000 FROM CIP FUND BALANCE | |
| RECOMMENDED ACTION | | | |
| Authorize a budget amendment in the amount of \$20,000 from general fund CIP fund balance to University Blvd South through Brazos Landing project (ST0805) for miscellaneous items along University in an effort to improve the quality of life and address outstanding concerns. | | | |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The University Boulevard South thru Brazos Landing construction project began in February of 2011. The project is one of the largest construction projects the City has managed and was completed as part of the Master Thoroughfare Plan. The total project value including design, construction and materials testing amounted to \$18 Million. The project included the construction of a 4-lane arterial from Commonwealth Boulevard traversing through Brazos Landing subdivision, ending approximately 600 feet beyond the outfall channel near the Riverstone development (approximately 2 miles). The project was completed in February 2013 with the grand opening on February 28th.

After the construction was completed in February 2013, the Engineering Department continued to receive a number of complaints and concerns regarding privacy impacts and an increase in noise levels. Those complaints have been tracked as well as documentation of the City's resolutions. A number of revisions were made during the time of roadway construction as well as during the landscape installation; however, additional items are still requested but the project funding is not available. The items identified are impacts to the quality of life for residents that are directly impacted by the roadway due to the height, location or elevation of the road and/or bridges adjacent to their property.

Remaining Miscellaneous Items:

Tree Removal and Relocation-

As part of the landscape project for University Blvd, the contractor installed 16-200 gallon, live oak trees adjacent to the Fort Bend County LID #14 levee (west of the Oxbow Bridge), on the north side of the roadway. The trees were installed to replace the existing trees that were removed as part of the construction for the purpose of installing a drainage system and to provide privacy screening to the residents adjacent to the levee. The City received a request from LID #14 to remove the trees because they were too close to the toe of levee and therefore, posed a US Army Corp of Engineers violation. Staff confirmed with the USACE regarding the violation. The trees were to be removed within a week from the time the City received the request. The cost to relocate the trees is \$10,000.00 and includes relocating them to alternative locations. A change order has been executed with LMS (Landscape Management Services), Inc. to manage this relocation.

Additional Screen Wall Installation –

In July, city staff, along with Councilmember Jajoo, met with the resident at 5514 Deerbourn Chase Drive due to a privacy concern. West of the Oxbow Bridge (middle bridge), on the north side of the road, the residential home has been impacted by a decrease in privacy. The house is separated by a privately owned screen wall, 30 foot Dow chemical pipeline easement and an eight foot sidewalk. Oncoming vehicular traffic traveling westbound on the roadway is visible from the backyard and kitchen area which faces the roadway.

As part of the construction several live oak trees were planted along the existing privacy screen wall, adjacent to the residents home and the neighbors to the east (along the levee side), to provide additional screening. In addition, Wax Myrtle shrubs were planted on the backside of the sidewalk, adjacent to the roadway and the adjacent property. The Wax Myrtle is a quick growing evergreen shrub that grows approximately five (5) feet a year. This shrub was specifically selected due to the quick growth and height it can obtain in a relatively short period of time. However, as an additional solution, a six (6) foot tall screen wall will be constructed along the backside of the sidewalk. The wall will extend from the end of the Wax Myrtle shrubs to the LID No. 14 right-of-way where the trail currently meets concrete slope paving that limited any landscape improvements. The proposed wall will be a single brick width screen fence. The cost of the wall is \$8400.00.

The project budget has been expended and requires a budget amendment from CIP fund balance in order to move forward with the necessary construction. The total cost for the remaining items including contingency is estimated at \$20,000.

The Engineering Department recommends the City Council authorize a budget amendment in the amount of \$20,000 reallocating funds from the general fund CIP fund balance to University Blvd South through Brazos Landing (ST0805) for additional items of work to address quality of life issues. This budget amendment will be incorporated into an ordinance amending the budget scheduled for City Council consideration in December.

EXHIBITS



EXHIBIT - University Boulevard South
Additional Work Items to be Constructed

NTS



